

REMARKS

The pending Claims 1 - 25, rejected for various reasons under §§ 103 and 112, have been cancelled.

Submitted herewith are new claims which Applicants believe define patentable subject matter.

§ 103 Rejection

Claims 1 - 9, 14, 15, and 19 - 22 have been rejected under § 103 based on Riddle et al (U.S. 5,927,511; "Riddle") in view of Gwynne (U.S. 3,849,961). These claims have been cancelled.

The new claims presented here correspond roughly to the now cancelled claims as follows:

New Claim	Old Claim
26	1
27	3
28	4
29	5
30	6
31	7
32	8
33	9
34	10
35	11
36	12
37	14
38	15
39	19
40	20

New independent claims 26, 41, and 42 recite the limitations that:

- each crossmember of the plurality of crossmembers having at least one elongated flat member
- the at least one elongated flat member having at least one series of openings therethrough

The remaining claims, by dependency from new claims, recite these same

limitations.

The Office Action, Page 3, states

Riddle does not disclose that each crossmember of the plurality of crossmembers having at least one series of openings therethrough, said openings made by removing material from a crossmember.

Applicants note also that Riddle has no teaching or suggestion of the limitations listed above.

In the Office Action, Page 3, the Gwynne reference is relied on for a truss structure with a series of openings:

However, it is well known in the art to extrude portions of a truss to make it lighter. Gwynne discloses a truss (10) wherein openings (31) have been extruded from the truss in order to reduce the weight (col. 1, lines 63-67). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the frame of Riddle by extruding portions, as taught by Gwynne, in order to make the frame lighter.

Applicants respectfully submit that Gwynne at Col. 1, lines 63 - 67 does not teach or suggest the use of openings "in order to reduce the weight".

Applicants also respectfully submit that there is no evidence of record that one of ordinary skill would have: 1. thought about reducing the weight of Riddle's frame; or 2. that this could be done with a truss of Gwynne's.

Riddle itself has no teaching or suggestion of frame weight reduction and Riddle notes (Riddle, Col. 1) that the screen assemblies are subject to the stresses imposed by the vibrating machinery (Riddle Col. 2, lines 43 - 45). One considering dealing with these stresses does not think about reducing frame weight.

Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims discussed above are not

obvious in view of the cited references and that these claims define nonobvious, patentable subject matter.

§ 103 Rejection

Claims 10 - 13 have been rejected under § 103 based on Riddle in view of Gwynne and Wilson (U.S. 4,380,494). These claims have been cancelled.

New independent claim 26 presented here has the limitations discussed above.

Applicants repeat here the comments above regarding the Riddle reference and the Gwynne reference. Wilson does not remedy the deficiencies of Riddle and Gwynne. Neither Wilson nor Gwynne has a teaching or suggestion of crossmembers as now claimed in new Claim 36. Gwynne's various structures are directed to the building construction and roof art so it is not surprising that Gwynne has no teaching of structures suitable for screen assemblies for vibratory separators nor, particularly, no teaching or suggestion of a V-shaped structure with the flat members as now claimed in new Claim 36.

Wilson's assemblies 70 are made of rods and wire - not elongated flat members at an angle to each other to form a V-shape. Wilson has no teaching or suggestion of the crossmembers as claimed in new Claim 36.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims discussed here define nonobvious, patentable subject matter.

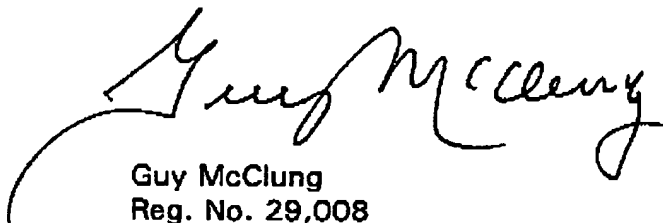
§ 112 Rejection

Claims 3 and 23 - 25, been rejected under §112, have been canceled. New Claim 27 (corresponding to now-canceled Claim 3) and 43 - 45 (corresponding to now-canceled claims 23 - 25) have been amended to overcome the rejection under § 112. New Claim 27 correctly recites "openings." New Claims 43 - 45 recite only one method.

Conclusion

Applicants appreciate the careful and detailed Office Action. This is intended to be a complete Response to the Office Action. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Guy McClung
Reg. No. 29,008

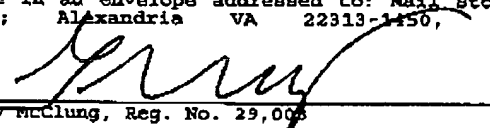
Date: 18 July 06

PMB 347
16690 Champion Forest Drive
Spring, TX. 77379--7023

Phone: 281 893 5244

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Guy McClung, Reg. No. 29,008

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